

THE BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE.

VOL. I.

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SALUTATORY.

WITH this edition we present to the good people of Utah, the initial number of the "BROAD AX." Launched upon the perilous sea of journalism, with a firm belief that it will be appreciated by those who will take the pains to peruse its columns, we desire to say, this journal will stand for the equal rights of all men before the law, for the interests of Salt Lake City, and the new State of Utah. It will be Democratic in politics, advocating the immortal principles of Jefferson and Jackson; it will stand for the HONEST SILVER dollar of our forefathers, to be coined free, at the ratio of 16 to 1, without asking permission of any foreign nation, prince, potentate, or banker; we will also strive to aid and advance the cause of the working man, in the great struggle now on throughout the whole country. This paper will also contend for the liberation of the minds of the colored people from political slavery, and will strive to infuse a spirit of liberal independence into the mind of the colored voter, in the consideration of all political questions. "With charity for all, and malice toward none," we come before you, asking your co-operation and support in endeavoring to "hew to the line," and in advancing the reforms demanded in this country. To this end, we invite a full and free discussion through our columns, by any one, of the questions now before the people, and we will be pleased to publish any contribution expressing an individual opinion, if brief, and free from personality. To all those who are in accord with the spirit and purpose of the "BROAD AX," we ask you to rally to the support of the objects and aims we have indicated, and in which all patriotic citizens should feel a deep concern.

JULIUS F. TAYLOR.

With a firm but kindly hand, let us expose the wounds and sores of our modern society.—*M. M. Mengasarian.*

We believe that justice is the task of man. The divine institution in the world is not the church, but society.—*William M. Saller.*

TO THE COLORED PEOPLE OF UTAH.

To the colored people of Utah we have a word to say.

The editor of this little journal, being himself a colored man, feels at liberty to address his people on terms of candor and equality, and therefore we ask you to come and "let us reason together."

There has been no race of people on earth, since the flight of time, who have been so much despised, downtrodden, and misused, by their fellow men as the negro race. Originating in the jungles of a savage continent, they have been brought to civilization through the portals of servitude, and at last through the law of the "survival of the fittest" they have finally reached the goal of liberty and equality before the law. His progress in the past has been slow but certain.

When he looks back over the pathway of his ancestors, and the trials they underwent, he but naturally feels a tinge of indignation at the wrongs received by his race. But the time for looking backward has passed. Let us now deal with the present, and look to the future. Those who would have you ever recurring to the memories of the past, do so with the motive of appealing to the prejudices, for sinister aims and purposes. For example, the Republican politician has always claimed the colored people should vote with the party who gave them their liberty—that they were their only friends and benefactors—that the Democrats were the negro's enemies, etc. The result has been, the colored people, thinking of the past only, disregarding the present and future, have as a class blindly followed that great party with a devotion unequalled in the history of man; forgetting the fact, that it was the fortunes of war, and not the design of the Republican party to free the slaves.

"Slavery existed in the south, the south is Democratic; slavery did not exist in New England, which is Republican; hence the south is the natural foe of the negro, and the north his natural friend." This is a sample of the sophistry used to "pull the wool" over the eyes of the colored man. Have we not overlooked the fact that the reason slavery was not established in the northern states was that it was not profitable to the whites, as it was in the south? It was recognized and practiced in most all of the states and colonies, both before and after the Revolu-

tionary war. It is true that the people of New England washed their hands of the sin, Pilate-like, by selling their slaves to their brethren of Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas, because it did not pay to keep them so far north. It is true, many of them then turned abolitionists, and clamored for the liberty of the blacks, thus showing they were first actuated by a mercenary motive, and then, envious of the apparent prosperity of the southern planter, made a virtue of their jealousy to despoil their neighbors.

There is no logical reason why a colored man should be a Republican, any more than he should be a Mormon, a Methodist, or a Baptist. It is time the colored people should act from reason, and not from impulse and prejudice. This is an active age; new questions have arisen; the old have passed away, and if we would keep pace with the progress of the age, we must deal with live questions, and not with those that are dead and buried. As long as the colored people align themselves with any political party, for no other reason than for a prejudice or for a sentiment, so long they show to the world they are not as broadminded and intelligent a class of people as they ought to be, and must be, before they are entitled to the recognition they deserve.

The BROAD-AX will endeavor to infuse a spirit of liberal and honest enquiry into the living questions of the day, and to lead the minds of the colored people away from false notions, old prejudices, and disagreeable memories. We want you to "act for the living present," to exhibit your independence of thought, and do the right, and thereby assist to break down the race prejudice that yet lingers with the American people. While doing this, we shall advocate the interests of the Democratic party, and ask you to be Americans, and not negroes, and to join us in an effort to discuss public questions, and public men upon their merits. Will you do this? If you will, we shall be the means of accomplishing a great advance among our race in Utah, and enable you to exercise your manhood and freedom.

THE most formidable weapon against errors of every kind is reason. I have never used any other, and I trust I never shall.—*Thomas Paine.*

Humanity is an arch which falls unless each part sustains the rest.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

Of all the names suggested as candidates for seats in the U. S. Senate, from the new State of Utah, there is a unanimity of sentiment among Democrats that the senatorial toga should rest upon the shoulders of Hon. J. L. Rawlins, of Salt Lake, and Hon. Moses Thatcher of Logan. They are the logical candidates of the Democratic party. To Mr. Rawlins the people of Utah owe a debt of gratitude, for which a seat in the Senate would be but partial payment. As a champion of the interests of our people, and the work accomplished by him, while a delegate from this Territory, he needs no asseveration, for it is fully recognized by every intelligent man or woman within our borders. A ready debater, a logical speaker, a profound lawyer, a courageous leader, and an honest man, he is at once fitted by nature and training to represent in that dignified body the welfare of this inter-mountain State. As a compeer of the gentleman just named, the eyes of Utah naturally turn to the Hon. Moses Thatcher, the eloquent and scholarly defender of Utah, whose very name sends a glow of pleasure to the hearts of the people of this commonwealth. A man whose soul and sympathies are in full accord with the best interests of Utah, with a moral character without a stain, his political career without a blemish, and his intellectual attainments the equal of any man in the West. With such an eloquent rhetorician, fearless advocate, and polished gentleman in the U. S. Senate, the destinies of this people would be secure. With such a splendid team representing Utah at Washington, we would be the envy and pride of the whole country. Such men would do grace and honor to the names of Webster, Clay, Benton, Sumner, Douglas, or any of the luminaries of the past, whose star of glory yet sheds its historic gleam from the escutcheon of American statesmen. The proudest day Utah can have, will be when these two giants of the Rockies take their seats as the first Senators from this magnificent State. And if the voice of the people is followed, this event will surely come.

REMEMBER, a good Democrat is far more preferable than a mean Republican, when it comes to holding office.

THE BROAD AX will be on sale at all news stands in the city.